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Homeland Security Town Hall Meeting

Max S. Baucus

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Senator * or Department*: **BAUCUS**

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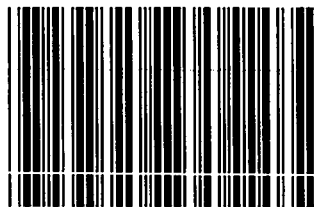
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(2) Subject* **none**

DOCUMENT DATE*: **05/31/2002**

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* "required information"



BAUCUS

MEMORANDUM

Office of Senator Max Baucus

To: Max
From: Kim Falcon
Date: May 31, 2002
Re: Homeland Security Meeting

Complete Name: Homeland Security Town Hall Meeting

Date/Date : Friday, May 31, 2002

Time : 9:00 a.m.

Location : Havre Mall on Highway 2

Top of the hill on west side of town

Baucus Staff: Jim Foley
Kim Falcon

Contact : Kathy Bessett, Doug Kaercher,
Pat Conway

Phone : 265-5481 ext 227

Position : County Commissioners

You will kick off a series of Town Hall Meetings on Homeland Security. You will facilitate this meeting with representatives from Customs, Immigration, Border Patrol, USDA, National Guard, Canadian Consulate, Canadian Immigration, and Canadian/American Border Trade Alliance. FDA and DEA may also send representatives. This is the first of 7 meetings that will continue along the northern border of Montana. Kim Falcon and Sarah Dudley will be leading these meetings. There is also a chance that Angela Marshall and Ted Posner will join the group.

These meetings are in response to concerns raised by constituents and community leaders along the northern border. Concerns include:

- What are agencies doing to increase and protect the border;
- How will communities be affected;
- What are the responsibilities of each community;
- How will tourism be affected;
- How many new personnel will be employed;
- Where will new personnel live;
- How can communities be involved
- What can be expected with border crossings.

The Homeland Security Town Hall Meetings Schedule

May 31 – Havre - 9:00 a.m. Homeland Security Kickoff, Havre Mall
June 5 – Great Falls - 10:00 a.m. Great Falls Airport
June 6 – Eureka - 10:00 a.m.; Lincoln Electric, 500 Osloski Road
Browning - 4:00 p.m.; Browning High School Gym
June 7 – Shelby - 9:00 a.m.; Elks Club, Main Street
Malta - 4:00 p.m.; Malta High School
June 8 – Wolf Point - 11:00 a.m.; Sherman Motor Inn

AGENDA

Welcome	-	Max
Panelists	-	Introduce themselves & give 5 minute description of involvement & buildup of border security.
Question & Answer		
Conclusion	-	Max

NAMES

US Immigration	-	District Director Harry A. Thomas
US Customs	-	Service Port Director Glen Roberts
USDA	-	
National Guard	-	
Border Patrol	-	
Canadian Consulate	-	Daphne
Canadian/American Border Trade Alliance	-	Bob Frazier

We anticipate at least 40 people will be in attendance

BORDER SECURITY AWARENESS



New security measures have been implemented at all
US borders, including Montana's. If you see
anything suspicious in this regard, please call

US BORDER PATROL

at

406-265-6781

Courtesy of the Office of Senator Max Baucus

**Homeland Security Town Hall Meeting
Friday, May 31, 2002 9:00 a.m.
Havre Mall on Highway 2**

Good morning. It's great to be here. Welcome.

And thank you for joining us bright and early this morning to talk about a very serious issue.

Since September 11th, we've had to change the way we look at the world. We've all had to become more cautious, more alert and keep our eyes open.

The phrase "Homeland Security" has become part of our vocabulary. And we've seen airport security increase dramatically.

In fact, I've been stopped 3 times for random searches since September 11. And I'm sure many of you have as well.

The Federal government and our state governments are working overtime to keep our country safe and prevent any additional attacks from happening.

Protecting our national security requires teamwork – at every level of government and through citizen involvement.

Our national security is also tied to our economic security. In order to have a healthy economy, our nation's citizens must feel safe and secure.

And that's why I'm holding today's meeting - to allow us to all work together to ensure our state is as safe as possible, especially along the Northern Border.

Our nation's borders are under intense scrutiny since September 11th. Montana alone has 454 miles of international border to secure.

Last year, I worked to help secure funding to allow the U.S. Customs Service to hire 285 new officers for all states along the northern border.

In addition, Montana was allocated over \$2.9 million to implement our Homeland Security plan.

It's very important that we all keep our eyes open and work together to maximize the resources available to us. It's important for the well being of our state and our economy.

I know folks in border communities are concerned about how the additional security will affect them and if the security measures are enough. I've heard many questions.

Questions like:

Are our immigration laws sufficient?

Do we have enough manpower in our border patrol?

Will customs agents be seizing more goods than they did prior to September 11?

Will tourism be halted because of burdens encountered at the border?

Will increases in agents at the border tax the local communities for resources?

I want to get you these answers and provide you with some

peace of mind today. It's important that border security decisions are based on common sense –

Montana common sense. It's important for our national security and important for our economy.

We have a great panel and I'm looking forward to a good discussion.

I'd like to welcome:

(* Please check with Foley to confirm attendance/names before meeting****)**

- **District Director Harry A. Thomas** with the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service;
- U.S. Customs Service Port Director **Glen Roberts**;
- **Adjutant General Gene Prendergast** with the National Guard;

- The Inspector Representative of the USDA; **(FOLEY-Name)**
- **Border Patrol Chief Robert Finley;**
- Canadian Consulate Representative **Daphne Corbett.**
- **Richard Anderson,** Canadian Immigration Centre,
- and **Canadian Customs Superintendent**
Daryl Bourgon. (BORE-GONE)

Today's format is very informal. We'll start with a brief introduction and summary from each panel member. And then it's your turn. This is your chance to ask any questions or concerns you may have about border security.

Thank you again for attending this morning. In the coming weeks, I'll be holding additional border security meetings in

Great Falls, Eureka, Browning, Shelby, Malta and Wolf Point.

My staff will be leading those meetings since the Senate will be back in session. So I'm pleased I could join all of you in person today.

Over the coming months, I'll continue to work with federal, state, and local agencies on border security.

And most importantly, I'll continue to work with our communities across the state and along the Hi Line. Together, we'll do what's right to protect Montana's borders and ensure that security decisions are based on common sense.

Common sense is important not just for peace of mind, but

for our economic security as well.

Montana depends on cross border commerce – We all want to continue a good working relationship with our neighbors, while keeping our country safe.

Working together we'll achieve our goals of protecting our country, using common sense, boosting the economy, and doing what's right for Montana.

And now I turn it over our panel. Thank you.